

Message Text

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64

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /141 W

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R 061528Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6653

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NJAMENA

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NIAMEY 3337

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NG, FR

SUBJECT: PARIS CONFERENCE OF FRANC ZONE HEADS OF STATE

1. WITH SUMMIT MEETING OF THE FRANC ZONE IMMIMENT, PRESIDENT DIORI IS ON VERGE OF SUCCEEDING IN BRINGING TO FRUITION PROPOSAL HE FIRST RAISED WITH PRESIDENT POMPIDOU IN JAN 1972. DIORI'S GOALS IN WANTING HEADS OF STATE CONFERENCE CONVENED HAVE BEEN LARGELY ECONOMIC, NAMELY LESS RIGIDITY BY GOF IN MONETARY MATTERS, MORE AID, BETTER TERMS IN RENEGOTIATING ACCORDS, ETC. DIORI BELIEVED THAT SUMMIT CONFERENCE WOULD PROVIDE MORE EFFECTIVE FORUM THAN BILATERAL MEETINGS FOR ACHIEVING SUCH ENDS.

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2. ALTHOUGH SCOPE, SIZE AND LENGTH OF CONFERENCE MORE RESTRICTED THAN DIORI HAD HOPED, HE NEVERTHELESS SEEMS SATISFIED THAT IT WILL AT LEAST TAKE PLACE AND PERHAPS SET A PRECEDENT. OVER PAST SEVERAL WEEKS DIORI HAS DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE TIME TO CONFERENCE MATTERS AND HAS MADE SPECIAL EFFORT CONVINCE MORE HEADS OF STATE TO ATTEND. ACCORDING GON AND FRENCH EMBASSY SOURCES, HOWEVER, IT APPEARS THAT ONLY SENEGAL, IVORY COAST, UPPER VOTLTA, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AND NIGER TO BE REPRESENTED AT HEAD OF STATE LEVEL. OTHER MEMBERS OF FRANC ZONE EXPECTED TO BE REPRESENTED BY MINISTERS OR AMBASSADROS WITH EXCEPTION OF MALI WHICH, ACCORDING TO GON, HAS NOT YET INDICATED INTENTIONS.

3. AGENDA FOR MEETING APPEARS TO BEMIXED BUT CATEGORIES ARE BROAD ENOUGH TO INCLUDE ABOUT ANYTHING ANY PARTY WISHES TO RAISE. FOUR GENERAL CATEGORIES MENTIONED WERE BANKING AND MONETARY MATTERS (FRANC ZONE), ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, BILATERAL ACCORDS AND EEC NEGOTIATIONS.

4. GON WILL HOST A PREPARATORY SUB-CONFERENCE NOV 8-10 TO WHICH ENTENTE COUNTRIES AND SENEGAL INVITED.
BUCHE

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